



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

16 AUGUST 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Bakersfield – Man Arrested on Suspicion of Having Bomb-Making Materials

(U) A man has been arrested on suspicion of having bomb-making materials after a downtown Bakersfield street was shut down for most of yesterday morning. The suspect, 58-year-old Ronald James McVay, was arrested earlier on an unrelated matter. Two of McVay's relatives then drove the bomb-making components to downtown so police could examine them, to which the bomb squad and firefighters responded and closed off the area around the car. The items in the vehicle were rendered safe and firefighters properly removed some chemicals, according to police.

SOURCE: 15 August 2017, [Bakersfield Now](#)

(U) Kelseyville – Man Who Fired on Officers Arrested

(U) Law enforcement officials took Joshua Caleb Brown into custody after a search of more than seven hours on 14 August. Brown is suspected of firing on shots at officers who were assisting with traffic control, while a Caltrans crew was set to remove illegally-poured concrete. A man believed to be Brown emerged from a residence in the area, confronted the officers and workers and then fired two shots in their direction. The male subject continued to fire shots towards responding officers before fleeing on foot and disappearing in an area of brush and trees.

SOURCE: 15 August 2017, [Lake County Record-Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Texas – Twenty Immigrants Found Locked in A Semitrailer

(U) Sierra Blanca – Border Patrol agents have found 20 immigrants crammed into a locked semitrailer at a checkpoint in West Texas, one day after 16 immigrants were discovered locked in an 18-wheeler parked at a gas station in Edinburg. A Border Patrol spokesman said the immigrants from Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala were in good condition and that the driver has been booked into the El Paso County Jail on a federal alien smuggling charge.

SOURCE: 15 August 2017, [Houston Chronicle](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Nigeria – Suicide Bombers Kill 27 and Injure 83

(U) Maiduguri – A woman suicide bomber blew herself up and killed 27 others at a market in northeast Nigeria yesterday. Two more suicide bombers detonated their devices at the gates to a nearby refugee camp, wounding many people. In all, 83 people were wounded in the three explosions near the city of Maiduguri, epicenter of the long-running conflict between government forces and Boko Haram.

SOURCE: 15 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Scotland – Parliament Targeted in Cyber Attack

(U) Edinburgh – Hackers have mounted a cyber-attack on the Scottish parliament's computer systems, weeks after a similar attack on email accounts on Westminster's parliament. Staff were warned that

hackers were attempting to access numerous email accounts by systematically and repeatedly trying to crack their passwords. Officials said they were not aware of any compromised email accounts, but warned the attack could mean some people were locked out of their accounts.

SOURCE: 15 August 2017, [The Guardian](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Investigation Uncovers Iran-Backed Cyber-Espionage Group

(U) London – An Iran-backed cyber espionage group called CopyKittens has increased activities, launching attacks on governments, defense companies and academic institutions, according to a security report. An investigative study by Israeli firm Clear Sky Cybersecurity and Trend Micro traced CopyKittens' activities to 2013 and revealed that CopyKittens' activities mostly centered on espionage of strategic targets, particularly Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Turkey, Israel, Germany, and the United States. CopyKittens used basic techniques, such as phishing, malicious email attachments and, more recently, watering hole attacks to gather information.

SOURCE: 14 August 2017, [UPI](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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